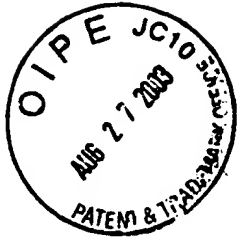


Appl. No. 09/992,612
Amdt. Dated August 25, 2003
Reply to Office Action of May 7, 2003

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(NE)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | | |
|----------------------|---|--------------------|----------|
| Applicant(s): | Ralph et al. | Examiner: | Reip, D. |
| Serial No.: | 09/992,612 | Art Unit: | 3731 |
| Filed: | 11/13/2001 | Docket No.: | F-146B |
| For: | Polyaxial Pedicle Screw Having a Threaded and Tapered Compression Locking Mechanism | | |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 7, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.


Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 12 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 25, 2003.

Dated: August 25, 2003


Russell R. Kassner

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